2-1944

Three Colored Women Make Fine Record in Farming

Augusta, Ga., Herald
February 27, 1944

By JULANIE LAMPKIN

BLITCHTON, Ga.—Three miles from here, there are three colored women who are making a remarkable record in farming. They are the Swinson sisters, Emma, Fronie and Mary who own and operate a 300-acre farm. The record of their achievements and the spendid growing crops on the land today are convincing proof of the capacity and ability of the Negro women on the farm.

These three sisters live in a beautiful house, freshly painted. The house is electric lighted and has an electric refrigerator. All fixtures have been purchased and running water is being placed in the house. Flowers and shrubbery fill the yard and porch. The pantry shelves are filled with canned fruits, meats and vegetables.

These sisters do all the farm work, assisted by a small boy aged 13 and a niece, who serves as secretary for the farm organization and teacher in a local public school.

On the farm, in 1943 there were: two and two-tenths acres of tobacco, ten acres of cotton, two acres of sweet potatoes, fifteen acres of peanuts, one acre of butter beans, one-half acre of watermelons, one acre of sugar cane, forty acres of corn and one acre garden.

The home is surrounded with fruit trees, pears, peaches, plums, apples, figs and pecans. The farm has all the improved farm equipment, including wagons, riding plows and mowing machines. They have three good mules, but are planning to purchase a tractor this spring. There are 31 cows and calves, 74 hogs, 200 chickens and 21 turkeys on the farm.

An accurate record of all income and farm expenses is kept every year. In 1943 the gross receipts were as follows: Tobacco $560; cotton $650.43; peanuts $710; cows $610.20; cucumbers $67.56; other vegetables $76; turkeys $87, making a total income of $2,720.98 in addition to the corn, peas and other edible crops left on hand for home use.

This farm was bought by grandparents of the present owners. The children and the grandchildren have the good sense to keep it and have made many improvements.

Raleigh N. C. News & Observer
January 17, 1944

NEGRO FARMERS CUT PULPWOOD IN WINTER

Many Negro farmers are cutting pulpwood during the winter months, say reports of the Negro county agents to State College Extension Service officials here.

"Frank Phifer, living in the Dixie community in Mecklenburg County was so delighted with his first car and hte check for 127.52, that he immediately began cutting on his second car," County Agent W. B. Harrison says. Phifer reports that he will be able to load the second car much easier than the first because of the experience which he has gained.

"Growers in aCswell County are cutting pulpwood and, at the same time, they are thinning out the underbrush and cutting their fluewood for tobacco barns," states County Agent T. D. Williamson.

As their part in greater food and feed production for 1944, the 4-H boys of Warren County are planning a larger number of projects this year than ever before, according to Farm Agent C. S. Wynn of Warren County. More than 80 per cent have signed up for more than one activity this year.

He also reports that Joseph T. Shearin of Norlina, Route 2, has produced 500 pounds of pork with no direct cash outlay, depending solely on feeds produced on the farm. He is canning the surplus sausage and spare ribs and has 90 pounds of lard. "More and more of our farmers are coming to realize the value of the live--athome program," Wynn said.

In Halifax County, nine 4-H clubs have been reorganized for 1944 and at recent meetings 1,500 people were in attendance. "Greater food and feed production is being emphasized and especially the 'Feed a Soldier' project," County Agent D. J. Knight says.

Winder, Ga., News
January 27, 1944

Negro Farming

According to special reports from 21 Negro county agricultural agents working in 27 counties, 98 neighborhood and community meetings were held during December on War Bond and Stamp sales, fat and scrap drives, and basic food production for home use. These reports showed that during December, six community tours were held, 69 demonstrations were given in meat curing and trimming, 83 in canning pork and beef, and 26 in banking and storing surplus farm products. Negro farm families are exceeding their home needs with the production of certain food products. They marketed $38,855.85 worth of milk, vegetables, beef, eggs, chickens, hogs and miscellaneous products, and they purchased $11,690 worth of War Bonds and Stamps.

THIS MORNING

by JOHN TEMPLE GRAVES

Birmingham, Ala., Age-Herald
January 17, 1944

"Science moves, but slowly, slowly, Creeping on from point to point . . ."

* * *

Illustrating how one thing in science leads to another is the work Birmingham's Dr. Gilbert E. Fisher is doing on a basis of what Birmingham's Dr. Tom Douglas Spies and others have done in nutritional deficiency diseases. A paper read by Dr. Fisher at a recent meeting of the Academy of Ophthalmolgy and Otolaryngology (nose and throat) in Chicago and published in a medical journal recites interesting and important observations he has made of pellagra symptoms as they are indicated in the esophagus. It is now generally understood, he writes, that "pellagra is a systemic disease or general disease affecting all the cells of the body." His findings of the effect of it on the esophagus means that another means of identifying it has been established.

* * *

The first reference to pellagra in medical literature, says Dr. Fisher, "was made by Don Gaspar Casal, physician to King Philip V, of Spain, in 1927. . . He called the disease 'mal de la rosa' or 'sickness of the rose' and thought it to be atypical leprosy." At times the disease has reached epidemic proportions in Europe. There were said to be 75,000 cases in Rumania alone in 1912. The first case in the United States was reported in 1864. "Alabama's Dr. George Searcy," Dr. Fisher tells us, "gave a marvellous description in 1907 of the alimentary tract symptoms, skin lesions and the nervous and mental manifestations of pellagra which will always remain as one of the classics of medical literature . . ."

* * *

President Carl B. Fritsche, of Reichhold Chemicals at Tuscaloosa, writes that "the youth of today is just as concerned over adult delinquency as adults are over juvenile delinquency, and I think rightly so. It is their parents and grandparents who contributed to the gross mistakes which brought to the world the sorry mess it is now in, and they have a right to expect something better." Amen, but it was over-emphasis on what youth has "a right to expect" that contributed to depravities after the other war leading up to this one. Tell youth that every thing is somebody else's fault, let it believe that it alone is all wisdom and virtue, and you fit it poorly indeed for the disciplines and humilities of a day when it will be grown-up itself and carrying the heavy burden of being free and responsible in a democracy.

* * *

The time has come to lay down the absolute proposition that proposition that youth is not older than its parents, not wiser than its teachers, not more virtuous than its preachers, and, Lord help us, not even more informed than its editors and columnists. And that what youth has a "right to expect" is no greater than what youth has a "duty to do."

* * *

A Negro sent a message to the president the other day which ranks with all the news from battle fronts. "Please convey to the president," wired D. V. Jemison, president of the National Colored Baptist Convention, from a meeting in Bessemer, Ala., "that officers, ministers, delegates and farmers attending the sixty-seventh annual Alabama state session pledge full weight of our influence for increased food production in 1944 through continued Triple A practices and elimination of Saturday half holiday . . ." With the longest and most tragic breadline in history about to form, that pledge has a truly life-and-death import. There are 546,025 Negro farm operators in the South, according to James P. Davis, of AAA, of which the greatest number—159,540—are in Mississippi, the second greatest—73,354—in Alabama. (Alabama has, too, he tells me, 2,609 Negro Baptist churches.) What these Negro farmers do or fail to do in the coming months will affect the whole history of the world. It is good to know that their leaders are aware of it, are summoning them to the great task before them.

* * *

"In the food crisis the Negro farmer of the Southern states has contributed liberally towards creating and supplying food for not only our people on the home front but for the 11,000,000 armed forces scattered throughout the world," declares The Athens (Ga.) Banner-Herald. What this farmer has done is a measure of the more he must do this year. Especially, according to Food Administrator Jones, more green vegetables. "There were 20,000,000 Victory Gardens in this country last year," says Secretary of Agriculture Wickard. "This year there must be 22,000,000—a 10 per cent increase." "Our farmers fed 4,000,000 men in uniform in the last year," President Roosevelt reminds us. "In this war they are feeding 11,000,000."

Woman, 64, Is Foreman Of 80 On Fla. Farm

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.
3-25-44

BELIE GLAIE, Fla.—(ANP)—Being 64 doesn't stop Mrs. Lula King from helping to win the war. Every day, including Sunday, she strides up and down the celery beds supervising the work of 80 celery pullers on the Peet brothers 2,700 acre truck farm near here.

Before Pearl Harbor, Mrs. King, who has been a migrant farm worker since 1934, had begun to take it easy. She was 61—and well, it didn't take much for her to go on. But then came the war and the increased need for food, so she put on her work clothes and went into the vegetable fields, pulling celery and picking beans.

So satisfactory did her work prove that she was promoted to field foreman last August. Incidentally, she is the only woman foreman on the place. She is a good-natured, but firm supervisor and she urges the workers along at a lively pace. Average production of her group is over 300,000 plants a day. The young plants must be carefully selected to get the larger, stronger ones for transplanting. This, Mrs. King observes with a trained eye, because she is a specialist in pulling celery and picking beans.

On the farm where she works the whole process of celery growing is carried on simultaneously. The celery pulled by her group is transplanted. In an adjacent field workers are cultivating and weeding and in still another field they are cutting it for shipment. It's like an assembly line, and team work is required.

3-25-44

The aged forewoman encourages careful, speedy work, and she isn't timid in the least about decrying a slow worker, or pointing a blaming finger at a puller who isn't quite measuring up to par.

Mrs. King's crew is made up of men and women, both Bahamian and domestic workers. And they like her. Affectionately they call her "Ma." Every morning one or two of them bring her a stalk of sugar cane, a sandwich, or a couple of bananas.

Says she, They say they need food to win the war, and I'm trying to do my part. I work every day—ain't missed but three Sundays since August. I'll be 65 next year and eligible for a pension, but I am going to keep right on working if the war's going on."

Fourth of All

Afro-American

Operators of Farms Colored

Baltimore, Md.

1-1-44

Secretary Wickard Says They Have Important War Job

AGRICULTURE DEPT. JOBS UP 200 P.C.

Number of Colored Employers, Secretary Says, Now 1701

TUSKEGEE, Ala. — One-fourth of all farm operators and one-half of all farm workers in the South are colored and 1701 colored professional and clerical workers are now employed in the Agriculture Department, according to Secretary Claude R. Wickard.

The Agriculture Department Secretary revealed the figures in an address on "Some Landmarks of the Colored American's Contribution to Agriculture" delivered before the Tuskegee Farmers' Conference held at Tuskegee Institute December 15.

Parts of the address follow:

That we in the Department of Agriculture are better able to serve the colored farmer is traceable in no small degree to the fact that we are following the policy of using colored leadership more extensively.

Lauds His Three Aides

Keeping colored farmers better informed concerning activities in the department and also in shaping the department's programs to the needs of the colored farmer are your Dr. Patterson (F. D.) and Claude A Barnett, director of the Associated Negro Press, my special assistants.

Time does not permit me to dwell at length on outstanding employees who are making valuable contributions within the Department of Agriculture. I do, however, want to mention T. M. Campbell who has been with the department since 1906. He is now Federal field extension agent.

On September 30, 1943, we had, both in Washington and in the field, 1701 full-time colored employees; an increase of about 20 per cent in the last two years. This figure does not include 583 farm and home demonstration agents and approximately 200 committeemen and collaborators.

Cites Increase in Jobs

In the last two years there has been an increase of more than 200 per cent in the upper levels of employment of colored persons in the various bureaus and agencies of the central organization in Washington.

By upper levels of employment, I mean jobs such as clerical, administrative, sub-professional and professional grades.

The trained colored leadership that has been functioning in recent years has been invaluable to the nation in achieving its record wartime agriculture production. 1-1-44

The fact that we were able this year, for the seventh season in a row, to set a new food production record is ample testimony of the fine job that all farmers are doing.

Farmers Worked Harder

Farmers and members of their families worked harder and they worked longer hours, too. On top of that, there were many other production handicaps such as less machinery and farm equipment, less fertilizer. But the important thing is that you and the rest of the farmers around the nation got the job done.

The size of the colored farm plant, operated by nearly 700,000 farmers, exceeds 30 million acres. The land and buildings of this plant were valued at 836 million dollars in 1940 and the value of farm implements and machinery on these farms was over 40 million dollars.

Estimates based on the latest available figures show that more than 80 per cent of the colored farmers of the country have poultry, 70 per cent have horses or mules or both, 60 per cent have hogs, nearly 50 per cent have cattle and more than 80 per cent have gardens.

2 Billion Pounds of Milk

It is further estimated that colored farmers have produced this year about two billion pounds of milk, 100 million dozen eggs and a sizeable quantity of beef, pork, fruits and vegetables.

The Department of Agriculture recognizes that, in order for the resources of the farmers to be fully utilized, a thoroughgoing loan and supervision program is needed in many areas.

Loans for seed, fertilizer, brood sows, baby chicks and heifer calves are now available; supervision is provided to help improve production methods and programs have been introduced which make for better health.

2 Major Credit Agencies

Two major agriculture agencies concerned with making credit available to farmers in wartime production are the Farm Credit Administration and the Farm Security Administration.

There are upward of 63,000 colored persons—many of them small farmers, sharecroppers or tenants—participating in the FSA program, making up over 13 per cent of the total number of FSA clients.

Of these, about 5,000 are on the road to ownership of their land and scores have already paid their loans in full. The main benefits from FSA are in financing food and fiber production and financing the processing and marketing of farm products.

Pay Debts, Buy Bonds, Save

In this connection, I should like to point out that in view of the present rather rapid upward trend in rural land values, the department is attempting to assist in heading off inflation by urging farmers to make proper use of their surplus funds to pay off debts and buy war bonds and stamps.

I am very much concerned that farmers do everything they possibly can to stop this inflationary spiral.

Tremendous Responsibility

Back on the farms, those of you who are on the production front will be carrying a tremendous responsibility for the success of the food program next year. This is evidenced by the fact that colored farmers make up one-fourth of the farm operators in the South and about half of the farm workers in that area.

So I, for one, fully appreciate the job that lies ahead of you.

Of course, no one can predict with certainty what our prospects are for next year because no one can predict the weather. But I am sure you'll do your best. And your best can be an important factor in helping to assure an early victory and a lasting peace.

Tobacco Crops Net Small Va., N.C. Farmers Fabulous Sums

Afro-American — Baltimore, Md. 1-29-44

High Prices Offered Due to Scarcity of Supply Caused by Labor Shortage on Large Farms

By SIMEON BOOKER

FARMVILLE, Va. — Thousands of dollars are going to colored growers of tobacco in the many markets of Virginia and North Carolina this month.

Hard pressed for the rich brown leaf, because of the unusually great demand coupled with the acute worker shortage on the large tobacco farms, markets are offering amazingly high prices.

Tobacco Scarce

The supply is scarce, so scarce that hundreds of colored farmers, formerly raisers of beans and potatoes, have turned their efforts to putting out the valuable crop.

This year the results are staggering. Colored farmers are averaging money in the four digits and tobacco auctioneers are praising the fine grain of the leaf.

Despite the usage of modern cultivating and planting machines, the amount of tobacco grown on the large farms is way below last year's quota.

Make Plenty of Money

"We have no shiny machinery," said one colored farmer, "but as long as I can bend over and put those leaves in one by one, I can make money.

"My wife and I have sorted those grains and stored the tobacco away ourselves way into the night many times, but now we're making more money this year than we have totalled in the past three years."

According to the farmer, the planting and subsequent care of tobacco is as delicate as that of weaning a year-old babe.

Experience Proves Helpful

The growing operation requires unusual skill and knowledge but years of experience on the larger farms have given the colored farmers efficient methods which they use with their limited resources. 1-29-44

One farmer has devised a wooden framework to put his tobacco into the ground without too much back bending. Another has refinished an old dilapidated barn to store his leaf to dry.

All of the methods have effectively competed with the expensive machinery found on the large farms that use electrically operated storing barns and other modernizations.

As for discrimination in the markets as to buyers, one colored farmer snorted, "All you have to have is the delicate grain and they'll forget color and everything."

"There's gold in those hills over there," a gray-haired farmer told me as he pointed to a newly furrowed field behind his newly painted dwelling.

His eyes beamed as he dug his hands into his pockets to produce a closed bank book.

Gets $500 for One Load

"Listen, son," the old man said, "this is the year of all the years. This is the harvest year of tobacco-land. Every farmer is getting tobacco ready to go to the market. There's some of mine."

In the wooden frame garage, two small trailers were loaded with tobacco. "Yesterday I got $500 on a similar load in town."

On the nearby highway, mud spattered cars pulled small trucks filled with tobacco. Horse and wagons loaded high with the valuable brown leaves rumbled onward toward town. It was the pilgrimage of farmers hauling the crop to market. 1-29-44

Bought Farms for Sons

The old farmer then told me that he had learned about the tobacco business while working for years on a nearby white farm, but is now runing his own farm which is dotted with animals and big barns.

"This year, already, I've made over $1,500 on tobacco," he added, "and I haven't got half my load out. I'll make enough to put a lot away in the bank."

He jammed his hands into his pocket, and continued: "That's no money, either! Why I can make $100 a day selling lumber from that area right there, too."

Three of his sons are in the armed services and he said that he had bought each one of them a farm. Two daughters are teaching.

"Talk about going to the city, son," the farmer said emphatically, you'd better have those high powered defense workers come to the country.

Woman Farmer Has First Cotton Bloom

Enterprise—Camilla, Ga.

BUY BONDS

The first cotton bloom to appear this season in Mitchell County was not brought in, as some might think, by one of the numerous Mitchell County farmers having a reputation for being good farmers . . . no, indeed, it was brought in by a slender, red headed woman who is running her husband's farm while he is away serving his country, Mrs. Charlton Galloway. 6-16-44

Mrs. Galloway was quite proud of having the first cotton bloom and told us with a gentle lift of her head "Now I guess all of these men will quit teasing me about my farming."

She doesn't give much of the credit to herself, however, for her successful crops this year. Credit must be given, she says, to the group of negro laborers who work the farm under her direction. "It looks like those negroes are trying to see just how much they can do and how good a bunch of crops they can make while Charlton is away," she said.

Norman Jones, one of the colored laborers on the Galloway Farm, is credited by Mrs. Galloway as the one responsible for producing the cotton bloom which was the first to appear in the county. 6-16-44

2-1944

NEGRO FARM FAMILIES INCREASE FOOD OUTPUT

More gardens, more hogs and chickens, more milk, more of everything to eat on the farm—that's the live-at-home program of Negro farmers in all sections of North Carolina, according to reports of Negro county agents to Extension officials at State College.

One of B. C. Mayo's farms in Edgecombe County, 13 out of 16 families had gardens and the average number of vegetables per garden was 7 1-3, according to County Agent F. D. Wharton. On another of the Mayo farms the average was 7 1-2 vegetables per family. Some of the families had joint gardens with others.

News + Observer

Twenty-four heifers and nine calves purchased from Warren County farms were delivered to Negro farmers in Gates County, reports County Agent H. L. Mitchell.

Zebb Jones of Reidsville, Route 1, prepared nine acres of permanent pasture for four cows and a calf, according to R. L. Hannon. Jones' wife had 92 chicks and 102 eggs under hens.

Raleigh, N.C.

E. M. Butcher of Northampton County drove 37 miles to get County Agent L. J. Morris to help him in vaccinating 120 hogs. Twenty hogs were treated for Solomon Vincent and 15 for William Everette and Jimmie Vincent.

Twenty purebred bulls have been brought into Robeson County by Negroes through their bull associations, reports S. T. Brooks.

Mrs. Mattie Knight, neighborhood leader of the Mullens section of Halifax County, has placed three high-grade Jersey heifers, 3,200 baby chicks, and three good gilts on nearby farms.

6-23-44

The Garfield Daniel family of Rockingham County sold the following farm products in May: Vegetables, \$11.25; fryers, \$50; hens, \$39; eggs, \$12.81; dairy products, \$12.25; fuel wood, \$61, and miscellaneous items, \$26. Daniel has increased his corn and hay crops by 20 per cent to meet the feed problem.

Racial Ouster Cases Dropped

Constitution 8-9-44
Atlanta, Ga.

POPLAR BLUFF, Mo., Aug. 8. (AP)—Prosecuting Attorney C. T. Bloodworth said yesterday he was dismissing all of 71 charges against 56 Butler county farmers in connection with the ousting last December of three Negro families from a nearby farming community.

The farmers were indicted in January by a special grand jury which charged them with "inciting riots" in forcing the Negro families to leave the community. The farmers, most of them prominent citizens, marched in a group to the county jail and stayed overnight before making bond.

Bloodworth said he had evidence Negroes supported candidates in a recent primary election who were opposed to prosecution of the cases, and added:

8-9-44

"That was sufficient for me. If the Negroes themselves don't want the cases prosecuted then under the circumstances I see no reason to run up heavy costs against the state."

White Author Hits South's Bigotry

WASHINGTON

There can be no intelligent reconstructive planning program for the South unless the interests of colored farmers are considered, Arthur Raper, white, Southern editor and historian, told the Washington chapter of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare at a luncheon in the YWCA on Friday.

Mr. Raper, an employee of the Department of Agriculture, in his speech to the interracial group, said that Southern whites must realize that they pay more in the long run by neglecting the welfare of colored groups than they do by providing for it.

Declaring that the gradual equalization of salaries in the South is encouraging, Dr. Charles Johnson Fisk University professor, said that he had observed that the greatest amount of progress generally occurred in areas where there were no "pressure" groups operating.

Times Picayune

DROP IN COTTON USE IS REPORTED

11-30-44

Consumption Decreases Since War's Start

BY PAUL WOOTON

(The Times-Picayune Staff Correspondent)

Washington, Nov. 29.—While exact statistics cannot be obtained due to the war situation, from the data available the bureau of agricultural economics estimates that there has been a decline of 17 per cent in world consumption of cotton since the outbreak of the war in 1939. The decline in foreign countries has been 36 per cent. This is partially offset by the increase in consumption in the United States.

11-30-44

In the United States in the 12-month period ended with August, 1939, the consumption of cotton was just under 7,000,000 bales. Consumption increased rapidly during the next three years and in 1942 passed the 11,000,000-bale mark for the first time in history. The rate of domestic consumption has declined from that peak, however, and this year will be less than 10,000,000 bales.

For the past two years foreign consumption has been less than 14,000,000 bales. This is a decline of 36 per cent since prewar.

In the United States the carryover of all cotton is 14 per cent less than on August 31, 1939. The carryover in foreign countries is 75 per cent higher than in 1939. It amounts to some 15,000,000 bales which is 13 months supply at the present rate of consumption. The bureau estimates that the carryover on August 1, 1945, will be at a record high mark.

World consumption of cotton during the past two years has been slightly less than 13,000,000 bales per year. A disproportionately small part of the carryover of American cotton is in foreign countries, but the carryover held in this county, 10,609,000 bales, has been exceeded only in 1938, 1939 and 1941.

Cost of producing cotton this year is high. In Mississippi the picking rate increased 40 cents per 100 pounds over last season, or \$2.10. In Louisiana the rate was \$1.80. This was an increase of 30 cents per 100 pounds. The prewar rate in Mississippi was 57 cents and Louisiana 55 cents. The average for the Cotton Belt was \$1.92 per 100 pounds of seed cotton. This is the highest price of record.

11-30-44

The staple length of this year's ginnings average 32.1. Thirty seconds of an inch longer than the average of last season.

Delay in picking the crop this year is not due solely to the man power shortage. The crop in most states got off to a late start as unseasonable weather delayed planting. While the harvested acreage this year is the smallest since 1895, the yield of 293.3 pounds per acre is far ahead of any yield attained in previous years. Exports this year are not expected to exceed 2,000,000 bales.

Star of Zion 12-7-44
Charlotte, N.C.

Cotton And The Negro

Cotton is in serious trouble. Not since the ravages of the boll weevil has there been such a scare as to the value of the vital money crop of the South. More Negroes are engaged in the production of cotton than any other farm commodity. What happens to cotton, therefore, vitally affects the welfare of hundreds of thousands of Negroes, who directly or indirectly depend largely upon cotton for a living.

Diversified farming has made marvelous progress in the South in the past generation, but this section, where three-fourths of the 15 million Negroes of the nation live, is still too largely a one-crop area. Tobacco is a close second, but does not affect the economic structure as does cotton. Farm settlement projects under the Farm Security Administration has done a great deal toward helping the situation of tenant farmers in their efforts to buy farms and to become independent through the medium of diversified farming.

Millions of acres of land are still held, however, for the raising of cotton, owned for the most part by large land owners, individuals and corporations, who employ tenant farmers, who work for wages or as sharecroppers. Despite the migration of great hords of Negroes from the farms to the cities and Northern industrial centers, the bulk of Southern farm labor is still composed of Negroes; these, in the main, are at the very bottom of the economic level and the lowest standard of living.

Bishops, presiding elders, ministers, teachers and Negro leaders of every sort should interest themselves in the welfare of these people. Much could be done to improve their situation, if careful study were given to rural life and problems. It is not enough to preach the gospel to them in week-end visitations; teachers should not be mere visitors in the communities where they work. Preachers and teachers should plan to live among the people with a view to integrating themselves with the community life.

Economic salvation in the cotton areas of the South, as well as all others, must accompany soul salvation, or the people will perish.

Macon Telegraph Ga.

County Agent Cites Advantage Of Long Term Leases on Farms

12-11-44

By D. F. BRUCE
County Agent

The length of the farm lease has important influence on the welfare of the tenant, landlord and the land, therefore farmers are urged to consider making leases for more than one year.

All would benefit if more of these arrangements were made with a view of giving advantages to both parties for continuing the lease for a number of years. This may require, however, some revision of terms from year to year.

When a farmer moves often, it's hard for him to make good plans. For example, it's harder for a tenant who raises livestock to find another farm with barns and equipment that fit his livestock needs than if he grows only field crops. On the other hand, the owner whose farm plant is developed for a certain type of livestock farming may have trouble finding a new tenant with the livestock and managing experience needed to handle the farm well.

FARM LEASE

If you're making a farm lease this year, consider seriously the length of time the lease should run. Try to make it fit the type of farming you expect to do. It's usually a good thing for both parties to include a clause that permits the lease to be cancelled under certain conditions named in the lease, or the lease can be written to continue automatically from year to year unless one of the parties gives written notice six months or more before the end of the lease year.

More information on rental arrangements can be secured from your county agent.

A recent study of hogs raised in Georgia according to sanitary practices shows that good management practices, without the use of any medicine or chemicals, are effective in reducing the prevalence of worms in pigs.

Results of post-mortem examinations made by the Department of Agriculture on 129 hogs raised in Georgia under a system of so-called moderate sanitation show that while moderate sanitation doesn't prevent all the worms, it greatly reduces their numbers and the damage they do.

SANITATION

12-11-44

The system of sanitation used in the study, included having the pigs farrowed in lots sown to forage crops, except for a strip of bare ground along the fence lines and the are around the shelters and the feeding pens.

This arrangement exposes many of the worn eggs that fall to the ground to the direct sunlight, which soon kills most of them. After weaning, the pigs are pastured on fields planted to corn, peanuts and various forage crops until they attain market size.

Seven important species of parasitic worms, including the highly injurious ascarid, were found in the post mortem examinations, in much fewer numbers than commonly reported in farm-raised pigs of the region. Three other kinds of worms that often occur in pigs were not found at all, while the occurrence of four other worms did not appear to be affected by the system.

A related study showed that moving pigs to clean ground at frequent intervals after weaning, in order to hog-off crops, appeared to reduce the severity of infections caused by the majority of worm parasites.

A Worthy Public Service

The National Sharecroppers Union with headquarters in New York, has launched a drive to raise fifty-thousand dollars to "liberate southern sharecroppers." "Our aims," said one spokesman for the drive, is "the abolition of the sharecropping system and the destruction of the monstrous system of exploitation."

12-5-44

We could not conceive of any more useful nor worthy public service for Negroes of the Southland. Books have been written on the iniquities inherent in the system. Celebrated law-suits here and there have come to the public's attention. But all these have been forgotten and the system goes on unabated.

As difficult and trying as other phases of Negro life has been and continue to be, we can conceive of no phase more heart-breaking that the share-cropping system. It continues to be the source and hot-bed of most of the floggings and lynching in the South. And it has been the means by which serfdom, if not slavery, had saddled itself upon the backs of poor, hapless and ignorant Negroes scattered over the rural areas of the South. Not infrequently, records have disclosed that judges, sheriffs and rich planters have cahooted in perpetuating the vicious system of exploitation.

Let no man, black or white, undervalue the grave importance of the sharecroppers plight. Either we shall have to help them or submit to an extension of its practice in the face of the rapidly dwindling fortunes for the rich planters through governmental aid and control.

Hinton
Journal + Guide—Norfolk, Va.

North Carolinians Have A Right To Feel Proud

DID YOU KNOW THAT, according to the 1940 Census statistics for agriculture there were 57,428 Negro farm operators in the State of North Carolina including owners and tenants of all types; that the farm land utilized by these farmers totaled 2,728,997 acres, and that the valuation of colored-owned farm property and buildings in the Old North State in 1940 amounted to $106,293,392?

10-7-44

MR. HINTON

Did you know, too, that the 1940 Census report also showed that a total of 332,359 Negro North Carolinians were gainfully employed; that the State's colored population is a working population constituting 27.5 per cent of the total, and that of the total population gainfully employed 33.9 per cent are Negroes? Did you know that in 1943 there were 89 colored vocational agricultural teachers located in high schools in 54 counties, and that there were approximately 3,000 colored youth enrolled in chapters of the New Farmers of America within the State?

10-7-44

Did you know that 4.5 per cent of the gainfully employed Negroes in North Carolina are rendering some type of professional service, that colored school teachers constitute 2.1 per cent of the gainfully employed and ministers 0.3 per cent; that in 1940 there were 26 practicing Negro lawyers, and 49 individuals employed in some form of social work, in the Old North State?

Did you know that North Carolina is the home of the world's largest Negro business enterprise, the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company, of Durham, which employs personnel numbering about 802 persons, of whom the majority are in the white collar class? Did you know that the only Negro banking institution in the State, the Mechanics and Farmers Bank, reported total assets of $2,329,354.21 at the close of the fiscal year June 30, 1943?

10-7-44

The chances are that you either did not know these things, or at best, had knowledge of only a few of them. Neither did I until a copy of THE NEGRO POPULATION OF NORTH CAROLINA—Social and Economic, by John R. Larkins, came to my desk a few days ago.

WELL WORTH READING

Mr. Larkins, as you probably know, is consultant on Negro work for the North Carolina State Board of Charities and Public Welfare. His booklet, which is designated as "Special Bulletin Number 23," is well worth reading for the information it contains. North Carolinians, particularly, will take as much pride in reading it as the author evidently did in writing it.

10-7-44

"The Negro's problems in North Carolina are not dominated by race alone but they are problems of human beings, which involve the rights and privileges of all mankind," Mr. Larkins sets forth. "The problems confronted by Negroes are practically the same as those of other inhabitants. The same deplorable socio-economic conditions existing among one group are found among the other.

". . . Both races of North Carolina have endeavored to work together and pursue the course of cooperation. The state has attempted to establish and develop programs toward the advancing of all citizens to full citizenship status . . . .

"To the everlasting credit of North Carolina, it has recognized the needs of its largest minority group, the Negro, and has made conscientious efforts to alleviate some of its social and economic conditions. The State has pioneered in many phases of work among the Negroes and stands as a beacon and guiding light to other states."

SUBSTANTIATES CLAIMS

Although the foregoing quotations are taken from one of the latter chapters of the booklet Mr. Larkins has substantiated these claims in almost every detail. For example, he sets forth that in 1940 there were 205,240 Negro Carolinians classified as heads of families; that the value of real property owned by North Carolina's colored population in 1940 was $39,069,126, with an average value of $826 per person.

10-7-44

Here are some other little known facts about the Old North State's Negro citizenry as brought out by Author Larkins: The Federal Housing Authority, with county and city aid, has constructed permanent low rent housing facilities for about 1,872 Negro families in seven North Carolina cities. And although North Carolina's public education program is predicated upon separate schools for the races, it has earned the reputation of having one of the most progressive school programs and systems in the South . . . The State's reputation for its school program for the colored population has received nationwide attention.

10-7-44

In North Carolina there are more institutions for the higher education of Negroes than in any other State in the United States. Of the twelve such institutions, five are supported by state funds. Negro high school attendance has increased during the past two decades from 4,715 pupils in 1923-24, to 42,789 in 1940-41. The course of study and requirements of accrediment in elementary and high schools are the same for all of the State's schools. And the program for training and certification of teachers of all groups is identical.

"As in the other states and cities of the United States, the Negro's church in North Carolina has been, and still is, one of the most important racial organizations profoundly influencing his social and economic life," Mr. Larkins says. To substantiate this claim he sets forth that North Carolina ranks fourth among the states with its Negro membership in churches.

—ALBERT L. HINTON

JUDGE FREES PLANTATION FUGITIVE AND DENOUNCES SOUTHERN SYSTEM OF OWNERS

Oklahoma Black Dispatch—Oklahoma City, Okla.

12-16-44

Is Released From Jail to Work In The Field But Never Allowed to Leave

RECEIVES $42 FOR YEAR'S WORK

CHICAGO—(ANP)—"Some of these plantation owners apparently don't know that slavery has been ended in the United States," said Federal Judge Walter J. LeRoy, Thursday in a ringing denunciation of Mississippi Negro peonage in the case of Lennie Kimbrough. Judge LeRoy overruled Gov. Dwight H. Green's extradition of Kimbrough to Mississippi on a frameup assault charge. The story of Kimbrough's servitude on a Mississippi plantation and how he, his wife and two children escaped to Chicago was brought out for the court's analysis by Atty. Wm. Henry Huff, noted peonage lawyer.

Kimbrough said he had been working for the U.S. engineering service in Mississippi as a bulldozer operator on airfields at a salary of $270 a month until he was victimized in a frame up quarrel with one Willis Stewart and Stewart's two sons, all colored on Dec. 1, 1942, who slashed him with knives. All were arrested and jailed for the altercation, Kimbrough testified.

While in jail, he was visited by one W. P. Scruggs, white plantation owner, who promised to arrange his freedom if Kimbrough would agree to work on his plantation. Kimbrough accepted the offer, he told the court, but only received $42 in wages for a year's work.

12-16-44

To Judge LaPuy's question as to why he stayed at the plantation, Kimbrough answered that he knew of three Negroes who asked Scruggs for permission to leave his employment and all three were beaten with ax handles or wrench handles and severely injured, adding, "so I decided not to ask to leave."

Kimbrough, his wife and children fled to Chicago on August 28 of this year and he obtained a job in a war plant here. Although he had been told by Scruggs that his case had been disposed of, and that he and Stewart had since shaken hands, the request for extradition based on an indictment charging Kimbrough with assault with a deadly weapon on one Willie Stewart on March, 1943, or three months after the altercation, followed his escape and was granted by Gov. Dwigt H. Green.

Kimbrough won his freedom when Atty. Huff petitioned the court for a writ of habeas corpus on the grounds that Kimbrough was being deprived of his constitutional rights.

2-1944

Alabama

Colored Farmer Makes Fine Yields

Greenville, Ala., Advocate

February 17, 1944

Charlie Darby Makes Four Bales On Six Acres; Other Crops Are Good

Butler county has many good Negro farmers. Among them is one whose story is an interesting one, especially from the standpoint of making a living from the soil by careful farming in the olden ways. That is Charley Darby, who has a 38-acre farm 7 miles east of Greenville.

Ala.

Charley came to The Advocate office this week with a 5-pound golden globe turnip. It developed that he planted one-fourth of an acre in these, and has already sold $30.00 worth and still has about one-third of his crop left.

There are just Charley and his wife to work the farm. They were never blessed with children; but living with them are Charley's 88-year-old mother and his wife's 95-year-old father. Charley is not old enough to have been born a slave, being 67, but his parents were slaves of the late John Smith.

This year Charley made 4 bales of cotton on 6 acres, and 125 bushels of corn on 7 acres. He gathered 800 pounds of peanuts from one acre, and planted an acre in oats for his mule. He got only 40 bushels of sweet potatoes from a quarter acre, as he was late in setting out his plants, but he made 63 gallons of syrup off another quarter of an acre in cane.

He has a brood sow and two pigs ready to kill for meat. A good cow and plenty of chickens; with his mule, complete the roster of his livestock.

This year he made $700.00 from his farm, using only one ton of fertilizer, but this is all he ever uses, depending on rotating and other good farm practices to conserve the fertility of his soil. He has owned the farm since 1919, and says it is more productive today than it was when he bought it.

WHY WORRY ABOUT COTTON?

Many Southern planters are worried about cotton. They are worried because newspapers are carrying stories about competition from rayon and other synthetic fabrics and about reports that Brazil can produce cotton at half the cost that Southern farmers can grow it.

Southern farmers have no real cause for worry over their future agriculture. They have the soil and climate adapted to the profitable growth of almost any crop that can be grown in the temperate zone, and competition from rayon or foreign cotton growers is bound to be of slow growth. B'ham, Ala. 6-20-44

It is true that cotton is a great asset of the South, but it is also true that some prosperous farmers live in the South who never grow a cotton stalk. Such farmers have found out that it is a matter of swapping dollars to grow cotton and buy Western livestock, meats and other foods. News - B'ham, Ala.

Alabama farmers should consider that this state doesn't produce enough corn for home consumption, that most of the meats served in the hotels and cafes of the state are imported from other states, that cold-storage eggs are imported from other states by the tons every Winter, not to mention canned goods.

Alabama farmers should consider the fact that they can secure good mares and grow excellent plow mules instead of spending millions of dollars annually out West for plow stock; that by arranging good pastures they can produce beef cattle at less cost than states of the North and West, because Alabama has longer pasture seasons than the states mentioned and less feed is needed in the short Winters here. Poultry is another opportunity in Alabama. 6-20-44

Alabama farmers should consider that corn will grow in this state in abundance if properly cultivated, and all food is going to be valuable during both the war period and postwar period.

With such a wide choice of agricultural pursuits, why should Alabama farmers or Southern farmers generally worry about cotton?—Mountain Eagle (Jasper).

Quotes From The Press

Southern Frontier — Atlanta, Ga. 8-1-44

Governor Sparks' Challenge

(*Birmingham News*, August 2, 1944)

. "There is one problem in Alabama and in many Southern states which has been a millstone around our neck . . . That is the tenant problem. More than half our farmers live on tenant farms . . . There has been an increase in white tenancy in recent years, while at the same time there has been a decrease in colored tenancy. This indicates that the Negro race is moving to centers of industry, while on the farm our white people remain in status quo."

The foregoing is from a speech delivered by Governor Sparks before the Southern Farm Bureau Training School meeting at Auburn. It is a reminder from a man whose opinion must be respected that the tenant farmer problem is already largely a white man's problem. Any who have been sniffish about finding a solution for the problem because of a disinclination to help Negroes will have to revise this attitu[illegible] And those who have a narrow, self-ce[illegible] tered point of view are also under press[illegible] to realize that they have been at odds with their own interest.

Governor Sparks is not content with viewing with alarm. He wants to do something. He knows that the tenant farmer cannot be relied on to use modern agricultural methods so long as he is the victim of a harsh system. The governor doesn't like "regimentation" or "collectivism," but he knows that the tenant farmer must be helped by the state. He is even prepared to supplement what the national government is doing by having the Legislature enact legal relief so that a "better relationship can be developed and a more profitable tenant system can be established looking ultimately toward the elimination of tenancy as we now know it."

8-1-44

These are good words, and one hopes that they left the right impression on the audience the governor addressed. The Farm Bureau's antagonism toward the FSA, which is now mainly concerned with its tenancy program, shows that somewhere along the line there are people who do not join Governor Sparks in his social approach to the subject. Perhaps these are leaders who frequently misrepresent the sentiment of their followers. It would be a grand thing if the Farm Bureau could throw itself behind the reforms which Governor Sparks suggested. There is good reason to believe that too much of the law affecting the farm tenant is heavily weighted against him.

Landlords and Tenants

The Union — Cincinnati, Ohio 9-14-44

Recent action by the Office of Price Administration limits the practice of landlords asking new tenants to put up a heavy sum of cash, and of holding to cash already collected as a "security deposit", against failure to pay rent or damage to the property.

Complaints from tenants say that landlords are demanding $100 to $200 as "security deposits" for low rent houses, the agency said.

OPA's action does not materially change the present administration of the rent regulations, but it does tell exactly what rules apply to "security deposits." In general, a landlord may not request or keep a "security deposit" unless it was his practice to do so at the time of the maximum rent date.

If a landlord can show need of a deposit to protect movable objects, such as keys or ice trays, he may ask for permission to collect such a deposit; but the most he will be allowed will be $10, OPA said.

9-14-44

This action also applies to advance payments of rent. Some landlords have been requiring advance payments of six months' or even one year's rent. Whether or not the tenant stays for the full period for which his rent is paid, OPA believes it is an unwarranted burden on a tenant to make more than the customary advance payment. These rulings apply to hotels and rooming houses, as well as to houses and apartments.